

Ser. No. 09/776,162

Attorney Docket No. P05556US0

- (e) providing a formula capable of comparing said predetermined market factor to said related market conditions to determine the existence of favorable pricing conditions for portions of the predetermined quantity of the commodity;
- (f) applying, in the computer, said formula to said predetermined market factor and said related market conditions during the pricing period to determine the existence of said favorable pricing conditions;
- (g) automatically pricing, and storing in the database, said portions of the predetermined quantity of the commodity at the market price established by the market when said application of said formula to said predetermined market factor and said related market conditions indicates the existence of said favorable pricing conditions.

22. (currently amended) The method of pricing a commodity of claim 23, wherein said information is received from said ~~supplier~~ first party over a computer network.

23. (currently amended) The method of pricing a commodity of claim 23, wherein said information is received from said ~~supplier~~ first party over a global computer network.

24. (original) The method of pricing a commodity of claim 23, further comprising generating a contract for the pricing of said type and quantity of the commodity according to said predetermined market factor and said formula.

25. (original) The method of pricing a commodity of claim ²³ ~~26~~, further comprising executing said contract with digital signatures.

26. (currently amended) The method of pricing a commodity of claim 23, wherein said time periods are at least ~~five~~ two consecutive trading days of a commodity market.